AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, 25, 30, 33, and 35, and cancel Claims 3 and 31, all as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged.

1.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

    a data structure stored in said storage medium, the data structure including or referring to:

        a name;

        a content repository identifier;

        a property;

        a property definition;

        a path; and

        a reference to a parent data structure;

    wherein the data structure is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR), and; wherein the VCR represents one or more a plurality of content repositories logically as one a single content repository from the application program's standpoint; and wherein the path uniquely specifies the data structure's location in the VCR.

2.   (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein the content repository identifier comprises:

    a repository name; and

    a content identifier that is unique for one of the one or more plurality of content repositories.

3.   (Canceled).

4.   (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:

    a property is an association between a name and at least one value; and

    wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the one or more plurality of content repositories.

5.   (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 4 wherein:

the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual presentation, or binary data.

6. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the property definition can specify at least one of the following for the property:
property choices;
a reference;
a data type;
whether the property is mandatory;
whether the property is multi-valued;
whether the property is primary;
whether the property is read-only; and
whether the property is restricted.

7. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically related to other data structures and the ~~one or more~~ plurality of content repositories.

8. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 7 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically inferior to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of content repositories.

9-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
a first object stored in the medium to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace;
a second object stored in the medium to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object;
a third object stored in the medium to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the second object;
wherein the first object is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR) and includes a reference to a parent object and a path that uniquely specifies the first object's location

in the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents ~~one or more~~ a plurality of content repositories logically as ~~one~~ a single content repository from the application program's standpoint.

26.   (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the first group of services comprises:

first functions that enable associating the first object with a location in the namespace.

27.   (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second group of services comprises:

second functions that enable creating, reading, updating and deleting the information.

28.   (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the third group of services comprises:

third functions that enable specifying at least one of the following for the second object:

information choices;

a reference;

an information type;

whether the information is mandatory;

whether the information is multi-valued;

whether the information is primary;

whether the information is read-only; and

whether the information is restricted.

29.   (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 further comprising:

a fourth object to specify a location of the first object in the namespace.

30.   (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 29 wherein the fourth object includes:

a content repository name; and

a content identifier that is unique for one of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of content repositories.

31.   (Canceled).

32. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25, further comprising:
a fifth object to provide a fifth set of services related to searching the VCR.

33. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
the second object associates a name and at least one value; and
wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of
content repositories.

34. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 33 wherein:
the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual
presentation, or binary data.

35. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
the first object is hierarchically related to other objects and the ~~one or more~~ plurality of
content repositories.

36. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
there is no second object.

37. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25, further comprising:
a sixth object to provide a sixth group of services related to configuring the VCR.

38-50. (Canceled).